(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Inquiry into the incident revealed that inspite of the best possible medical assistance provided, the life of the said woman passenger unfortunately, could not be saved. She was reported to be a heart patient and had undergone by-pass surgery.

Proposal to upgrade Surat Airport

7710. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to upgrade the Surat airstrip into an airport capable of handling domestic flights;

(b) if so, what are the details of the project indicating also its cost and time frame for implementation; and

(c) at what stage the matter stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The airport at Surat belongs to State Government of Gujarat and is capable of handling Dornier/AVRO type of aircraft. Airports Authority of India has no plan to upgrade this airport.

Irappropriate accounting by Air India

7711. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Air India's 1992-93 accounts did not properly reflect the economic situation;

(b) whether it is a fact that there was inappropriate accounting in Air India in 1992-93;

(c) if so the names of the concerned auditors; and

(d) whether Government propose any inquiry into the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The Accounts of Air India for the period 1992-93 reflect the true and fair view of the state of Affairs of the company. The accounts have been examined by two firms of chartered accountants namely M/s. S. B. Billimoria and Co. and M/s. N. M. Raiji and Co. as examiners. The Principal Director of Commercial Audit and ex-offiico member, Audit Board II, Bombay has certified the Accounts.

(d) No, Sir.

Profits by Air India

7712. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India declared profits of nearly 333 crores in 1992-93;

(b) whether these pofirts reflected the real situation;

(c) whether it is a fact that Air India has shown losses of 180 crores recently; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Audit of Air India accounts

7713. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Board of Air India recently at a meeting demanded a thorough audit of the accounts of Air Inda for the period 1991-92 and 1992-93;